

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1011

By Floyd

## A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Luther Earl Freudenberg.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those persons who, through their personal and professional efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such exemplary citizen deserving special recognition is Luther Earl Freudenberg for his hard work as one of Chattanooga's most esteemed radio broadcasting personalities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Freudenberg is a Chattanooga native who graduated from the Chattanooga public school system and attended the University of Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, Earl Freudenberg has enjoyed a well-rounded radio broadcasting career, working in every department of a radio station; he began his stellar career in radio broadcasting when he was still a student at Northside Junior High School, when he would pull copy off the wire machine at WAPO Radio to help the sportscaster broadcast road game scores for the Chattanooga Lookouts baseball team; and

WHEREAS, when he was a junior in high school, Mr. Freudenberg continued in his work at WAPO by writing advertising copy and operating the control board at the radio station; and

WHEREAS, his dedication and hard work paid off, and Earl Freudenberg was offered a job at WDOD as a weekend operator the day he graduated from high school; and

WHEREAS, shortly thereafter, Mr. Freudenberg was promoted to the lofty position of News and Public Affairs Director, giving him the distinction of becoming the youngest program director in the Chattanooga market; and

WHEREAS, Earl Freudenberg bravely answered his patriotic call of duty in 1970 when he joined the United States Army, serving in South Carolina and Germany; deployment did not

deter him from his love of radio broadcasting, and he worked on the staff of the Armed Forces Network as a radio host and in production and public affairs; and

WHEREAS, after completing his tour of duty, Mr. Freudenberg returned to Chattanooga to become the news director at WDOD, leaving briefly for a stint as the news director for the local CBS television affiliate station, WDEF; and

WHEREAS, he returned to radio broadcasting at WDOD, where he remained for over twenty years, earning the respect of his colleagues and listeners alike for his exemplary work as the host of the *Hey Earl* show, as well as for his impeccable service as an account executive, Assistant Chief Operator, and News and Public Affairs Director; and

WHEREAS, Earl Freudenberg currently delights listeners as the host of two daily programs in the afternoons and evenings at the noncommercial Christian radio station, WDYN in Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Freudenberg is truly a talented radio broadcaster with a gift for the written and spoken word, but he possesses an even greater gift for making friends; and

WHEREAS, Earl Freudenberg has been deservedly recognized with the bestowal of several prestigious awards and accolades, including Sertoma Club's National Heritage Award in 1993, the Walker County Law Enforcement Award, the Scenic City Beautiful Award, the Freedoms Foundation Appreciation Award in 2005, and the Purple Heart Citation in 2000; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Mr. Freudenberg was named 1978 Professional Journalist News Writer of the Year by Sigma Delta Chi, the professional journalists society, Red Bank Outstanding Citizen, 1980 Tennessee Associated Press Broadcaster of the Year, and 1988 Red Bank Chamber of Commerce Person of the Year; he was also specially recognized on the floor of the United States House of Representatives by Congressman Zach Wamp in 1995; and

WHEREAS, Earl Freudenberg is a pillar of society who has donated his time and talents to a number of praiseworthy causes, such as the Armed Forces Day Parade, of which he has been the announcer for many years, the Chattanooga Police Forgotten Child Fund, which he has served as a board member, Bethel Bible Village, which we has served as a member of the Advisory Board, the Kidney Foundation, Sertoma Club, and Teen Challenge; he has also served

as a charter member of the WTCI Public TV Board and a member of the Armed Forces Week Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Freudenberg currently evinces Christian faith as an active and devout member of Berean Baptist Church in Hixson, Tennessee, and has served in a number of roles in service to his faith, including Calvary Bible Church Treasurer and as an ordained deacon and elder of the Independent Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, Earl Freudenberg is the epitome of the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a true citizen; and

WHEREAS, his many awards and accomplishments aside, Mr. Freudenberg is most appreciative of the love and support he receives from his wife of thirty-seven years, Julie; their two children, Amy Dover and Mark Freudenberg; and two granddaughters, Rachel and Juliana; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Luther Earl Freudenberg for his service to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and recognize Luther Earl Freudenberg for his superb service in the field of radio broadcasting and to the State of Tennessee and extend to him our best wishes for his continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.